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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTHERN DIVISION

CIV. 11-4062

CAROLINE STOKKE,

Plaintiff,

: NOTICE OF AND PETITION FOR

REMOVAL

STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE

INSURANCE COMPANY,

VS.

:

Defendant.

TO THE ABOVE-ENTITLED COURT:

Defendant State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company hereby files this

Notice of Removal of the above-described action to the United States District Court for
the District of South Dakota, Southern Division, from the South Dakota Circuit Court,

Second Judicial Circuit, Minnehaha County, where the action is now pending, and states:

- 1. This action is a claim for breach of contract and vexatious denial arising out of a claim for underinsured motorist benefits and the United States District Court for the District of South Dakota has jurisdiction by reason of the diversity of citizenship of the parties.
- 2. When the action was commenced on April 8, 2011, Defendant State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company was, and now is a corporation organized,

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formed and incorporated in and under the laws of the State of Illinois, having its principal place of business in the State of Illinois.

- 3. At all times, and on April 8, 2011, when the action was commenced in Minnehaha County, Second Judicial Circuit, Plaintiff was, and now is a resident of South Dakota.
- 4. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter under 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because there is diversity of citizenship between Plaintiff and Defendant and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00.
- 5. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company received actual notice of this action when it received a copy of the Summons and Complaint on April 11, 2011. The South Dakota Department of Revenue and Regulation purported to admit service on behalf of State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company on April 8, 2011.
- 6. Attached to and filed with this notice are copies of the Summons,
 Complaint, Jury Trial Demand, Notice and Admission of Service of Summons
 (unsigned) and correspondence from the Division of Insurance, which are the only
 process, pleadings, or orders served upon Defendant or on file in this matter.
- 7. With respect to the amount in controversy, Plaintiff's Complaint seeks damages for injuries and other claimed damages, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest and costs and disbursements and attorney's fees. The amount Plaintiff seeks to

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recover from Defendant exceeds Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000), exclusive of interest and costs.

- 8. Defendant will give written notice of the filing of this notice as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).
- 9. A copy of this notice will be filed with the Minnehaha County Clerk of the South Dakota Circuit Court, Second Judicial Circuit, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

WHEREFORE, Defendant requests that this action proceed in this Court as an action properly removed to it.

Dated this 9th day of May, 2011.

FULLER & SABERS, LLP

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Attorneys for Defendants

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Certificate of Service

I certify that on the 9th day of May, 2011, a true and correct copy of the foregoing

Notice of and Petition for Removal was served via E-Filing upon the following:

Mr. Ryan Sittner Ms. Sara Liberko Radke Law Office, P.C. 3500 South First Avenue Circle, Suite 201 Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Attorneys for Plaintiff

One of the Attorneys for Defendants